



## **Testimony in support of H 6249**

May 4, 2021

Honorable Chairman Abney and members of the House Committee on Finance:

The Rhode Island Small Business Coalition (RISBC) is made up of local businesses coming together to support each other and advocate for our mutual needs. Comprised of over 1,500 member businesses across every industry in Rhode Island, we ensure our collective voice is heard to create the change we need. Due to the current economic climate and lack of perfect solutions, the RISBC is in favor of passage of H 6249.

RISBC members across every industry in Rhode Island are facing hiring difficulties, for several reasons. The Department of Labor and Training has been a strong partner with the RISBC throughout the pandemic and this modification of the unemployment benefit seems to be the most expedient way to a working solution. We believe the increases proposed in this bill will aid in hiring employees for our small businesses, while also maintaining the economic safety net that is vital to keep consumer spending, and therefore our economy, intact and hopefully expanding.

The RISBC asks you to vote on and pass H 6249 in this session. Thank you for your consideration.

**RI Small Business Coalition**

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